

ARIZONA STATE CAPITOL MUSEUM

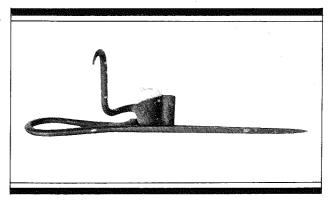
Restored Office of the State Mine Inspector

The State Capitol Museum is pleased to open the restored State Mine Inspector's Office. The office is restored to 1912 and includes period furniture and furnishings and authentic mine rescue and safety equipment.

The first State Mine Inspector, Greene H. Bolin, is high-lighted. The responsibilities and goals of the Mine Inspector, both historically and at present, are discussed in the exhibit.

Miners Candlesticker

Until carbide lamps appeared early in the 20th century, hardrock miners worked by the flickering light of candles Candlestickers became identified with hard-rock mining, and were supplied with a hook for hanging the miner's jacket and a sharp point to be poked into the rock or timber.





The Office of the State Mine Inspector

The Office of the Mine Inspector was established by Article XIX of the State Constitution (February 14, 1912). The duties of the Mine Inspector's office are generally the same today as they were in 1912: to provide for the safety and health of mine workers throughout the state.

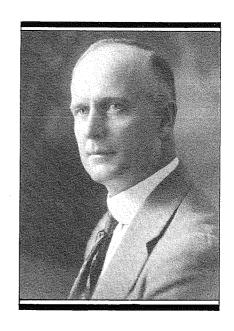
Emphasis on Education The emphasis today is on safety education. Refresher and new courses are made available to mine employees and their families throughout the state.

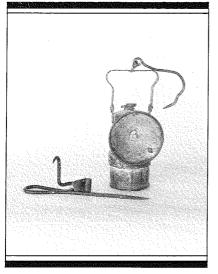
Changing Technology The technology of mining production undergoes a substantial change every two years. The Mine Inspector must be knowledgeable not only of new mining technology, but also of the hazards which may arise from it.

The First Mine Inspector

Greene H. Bolin, State Mine Inspector from 1912 to 1920, devoted his life to various aspects of mining – from laborer in the mines to contractor, lessee and broker.

As Mine Inspector, Mr. Bolin set a standard by which all later inspectors would be proud to serve.

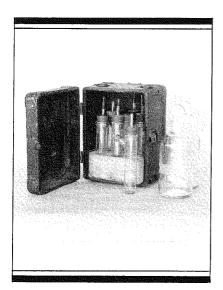




Carbide Lamp and Miner's Candlesticker

Carbide lamps could be hung from above or driven into a timber. They could also be worn on the miner's belt.

Blacksmiths made everything at the mine, from candlestickers to mule shoes. Miners were usually issued three candles per shift.



Gas Detector Kit

Miner's Cap with Oil Lamp

This kit, with chemicals, was used to detect gas in the mines. Poisonous gases and lack of oxygen are among the most serious underground hazards.

Before carbide lamps were used on miners' caps, lamps such as this were used. Inside the lamp is a wick which was soaked in fuel. The fuel was probably kerosene stove oil.

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A Three-Year Exhibits Plan

A Three-Year Exhibits Plan calls for restoration of several offices in the State Capitol Museum, housed in the original State capitol building.

The Mine Inspector's exhibit is the first of four offices planned for restoration in the next year.

The year 1912 has been chosen as the restoration date because it allows discussion of the transition from territory to state. By restoring the offices to their original statehood use, the museum staff is able to present the various functions of government in an entertaining educational format.

With sincere thanks to Arizona Mineral and Mines Museum for loan of objects and specimens; Greene H. Bolin, Jr. for photographs and documents; Gila County Historical Society for loan of rescue equipment; Dr. E. L. Hinshaw, State Veterinarian, for loan of miner's cap; Douglas K. Martin, State Mine Inspector, for rescue equipment, documents, objects and many hours of assistance, and to Phelps-Dodge Corporation for objects. Photographs, documents and maps are from the Department of Library, Archives and Public Records, Research and Archives Divisions.

Exhibit design team: R. Wesley Bliss, Team Leader; Marian Shepherd, Exhibit Technician; Maxine T. Edwards, Museum Curator, Michael Steinberg, Museum Registrar; Joel Ayala, Assistant Exhibit Technician.

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Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday Closed State Holidays Telephone (602) 542-4675

For groups of twelve or more please call for a tour reservation.

The Museum is completely handicapped accessible